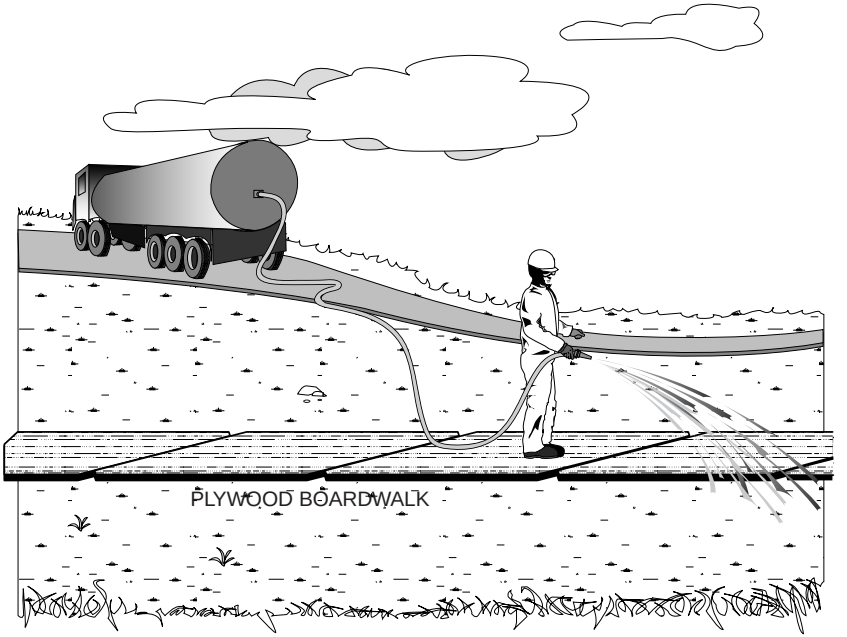

Irrigation is the application of water to increase the soil moisture to improve conditions for plant growth. Water is applied by flooding, spraying, or using sprinklers.

Flooding for irrigation can be implemented in the same manner as described for treatment flooding (Tactic T-1). Irrigation by flooding may require land barriers (Tactic T-3) to maintain desirable water levels. Flooding may be appropriate for rehabilitating wet and moist tundra dewatered during cleanup or treatment.

APPLICABILITY

- *Spilled Substance:* All
- *Tundra Types:* All
- *Season:* Spring, summer, fall

CONSIDERATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

- This tactic is most applicable during the dry period of the growing season.
- This tactic has been used with success to increase water supply to crude-oil-affected moist or wet North Slope tundra (Cater and Jorgenson, 1994) during the growing season. Information on the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of this tactic is based on field observations, not controlled experiments. No test data exist which document whether the use of this tactic results in long-term benefits to tundra restoration compared with other tactics, combinations of tactics, or "no action."

EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, AND PERSONNEL

- Water truck (optional) (1 operator)
- Pumps (1 operator)
- Hoses (1 operator) – common sizes are 2- and 3-inch diameter
- Sprinklers (1 operator)
- Clean water source (1 operator) – may be a nearby pond or creek